

Michael F. Easley  
Governor



State of North Carolina  
Office of the Governor

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**GOV. EASLEY URGES CITIZENS TO APPLY FOR 2004 SBA LOAN ASSISTANCE  
BEFORE DEC. 1 DEADLINE**

**RALEIGH** – Gov. Mike Easley today reminded homeowners in the 50 counties declared disaster areas after the 2004 hurricane season that time is running out to apply for state funds to help repay their Small Business Administration (SBA) home loans. The loan repayment grants are part of the Governor's Operation Brighter Day hurricane recovery program, which was established after seven storms hit the state in August and September of last year.

"Through Operation Brighter Day, we are making grants available to homeowners to help repay any SBA loans they received to make repairs to their property," said Easley. "The deadline to apply for these funds is Dec. 1, and we want to make sure everyone who is eligible for that help gets it."

Eligible applicants must have received notice from the SBA that their loan was approved. An applicant did not have to take the loan to be considered for the grant. Homeowners who are urged to contact Belinda Jones of the N.C. Redevelopment Center for additional information at 919/733-1566, by email at [bejones@nccrimecontrol.org](mailto:bejones@nccrimecontrol.org), or by mail at 102 N. Salisbury Street, 20325 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-0325.

The 50 counties included in the 2004 disaster declaration are Alamance, Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Bladen, Brunswick, Buncombe, Burke, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Caswell, Catawba, Cleveland, Columbus, Cumberland, Dare, Davidson, Forsyth, Gaston, Graham, Guilford, Haywood, Henderson, Hoke, Hyde, Iredell, Jackson, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Moore, New Hanover, Pender, Polk, Randolph, Robeson, Rockingham, Rutherford, Scotland, Stokes, Swain, Transylvania, Union, Watauga, Wilkes and Yancey.

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